

### **Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Original) A patch containing fentanyl for mucous membrane of the oral cavity, which can be prepared by laminating on one side of a drug layer which contains fentanyl or its salt as an active ingredient, methyl vinyl ether-maleic anhydride copolymer as an adhesive, and at least one substance selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and hydroxyethyl cellulose as a thickener, a support layer hardly soluble or insoluble in water, and a backing in their order.
2. (Original) The patch containing fentanyl for mucous membrane of the oral cavity according to claim 1, wherein the fentanyl salt is fentanyl citrate.
3. (Currently amended) The patch containing fentanyl for mucous membrane of the oral cavity according to claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein the drug release rate from the drug layer is adjusted as to becoming 50 % within one hour.
4. (Original) The patch containing fentanyl for mucous membrane of the oral cavity according to claim 1, wherein the ratio of the adhesive and a thickener is a range selected from 5:95 to 97:3.
5. (New) The patch containing fentanyl for mucous membrane of the oral cavity according to claim 2, wherein the drug release rate from the drug layer is adjusted as to becoming 50 % within one hour.